



Tarn Ream: Musician, Dancer, Choreographer, Performance Artist, Director

Tarn Ream has been teaching community African dance classes throughout Montana for over 20 years, as well as directing and choreographing for the Unity Dance and Drum performance group in Missoula—creating hundreds of performances for dance concerts, festivals, presentations, First Night, Festival of the Dead, UM International Festival, and more. Tarn also teaches for The University of Montana Dance Program, as well as for special events across the region and the nation.

Ream co-founded Unity Dance and Drum to promote education, performance and workshops in African music and dance in Montana. This art form focuses on individual and communal healing, important life transitions, honoring ancestors and celebration. She states that she is “particularly drawn to this form as a path for individuals to gain courage and a sense of community, to process personal issues and articulate new forms of self-expression.”

Described by application reviewers as “exciting, innovative, and a great teacher active in outreach,” Ream writes of the transformative power of innovation that allows music and dance to “carry... us to new places through shifts in movement, posture, tempo, lyrics, and rhythm – allowing us to truly hear the music.”